

“Genetics: The Secret of Life” 2019-20 Peer Mentors

General Position Information

A peer mentorship is a paid student position providing leadership to the “Genetics: The Secret of Life” Learning Community in order to improve learning and create a supportive academic community for our first-year and early transfer students. The learning community is a two-semester program.

Peer Mentors are role models for first-year and early transfer students and assist them in achieving the goals of the program which include:

- **Student Development: Resourcefulness**
 - Capacity to succeed in a diverse and challenging major.
 - Knowledge of the current and future impact of genetics.
 - Awareness of out-of-class opportunities.
- **Supportive Learning Environment:**
 - Foster connections between students, peer mentors, staff, and faculty.
 - Build a safe environment for students to share their experiences and develop leadership skills.

Position Qualifications

- Student must be a Genetics or BCBio major with at least sophomore status in Fall 2019 and have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
- A projected sophomore must have achieved a B or better in the following classes: BIOL 211 & 212, CHEM 177 & 178.
- A projected junior or senior must have achieved a B or better in the following classes: BIOL/GEN 313 and CHEM 331 OR CHEM 332 and MATH 160/165/181 in addition to the requirements listed for sophomores.
- Applicants must demonstrate evidence of leadership and interpersonal communication skills such as previous experience as a tutor, club officer, or peer mentor.
- Student must be able to commit to spending approximately 3 hours per week in Fall and 2 hours per week in Spring.
- Student must be able to attend Genetics 110 in Fall (Tuesday, 2 p.m.)
- One peer mentor will also attend Genetics 112 in Spring (Tuesday, 2 p.m.)

Position Responsibilities

Training and Accountability:

1. Participate in Peer Mentor Training the week prior to the beginning of fall semester: Monday, August 19 and Tuesday, August 20, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. each day. This is required for new peer mentors. Returning peer mentors are also welcome to attend.
2. Attend peer mentor meetings with the coordinator (biweekly or monthly as scheduled).

3. Attend any additional peer mentor training organized by the coordinator.

In collaboration with the Learning Community Coordinator:

1. Participate in Orientation sessions during the month of June as available.
2. Organize and lead weekly group study sessions in Biology and Chemistry.
3. Attend and assist with Gen 110 Orientation Class activities on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. (weekly, fall semester) and Gen 112 in Spring semester on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. (one peer mentor).
4. Provide assistance in planning and carrying out large group activities such as service learning, field trips and faculty-student interactive events (monthly).
5. Contribute to the learning community bulletin board and website.

Total time commitment:

- Fall: Average of 3 hours weekly
- Spring: Average of 2 hours weekly (3 hours for one peer mentor)

Compensation:

- Peer mentors are paid on an hourly basis and must turn in biweekly timesheets
- Hourly rates are \$11.50 for returning mentors and \$11.00 for new mentors